

Message Text

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61

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OES-06 NSF-02 COME-00 AGR-10 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-02 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-02

/056 W

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R 301910Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7085

INFO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

UNCLAS MEXICO 11117

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TECH, MX; TGEN

SUBJ: MEXICAN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, 1970-1976

1. A CONTINUOUS, UNINTERRUPTED 8 HOUR BRIEFING ON PROGRESS IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY IN MEXICO FROM 1970 TO 1976 WAS HELD AUG 26 FOR PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA. THE SESSION WAS CHAIRED BY CONACYT DIRGEN GERARDO BUENO ZIRION AND PRESENTATIONS WERE MADE BY THE HEADS OF THE PRINCIPAL S AND T PROGRAMS.

2. THE THRUST OF THE PRESENTATION WAS THAT SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS IN S AND T WAS MADE DURING ECHEVERRIA'S PRESIDENCY TO REDUCE MEXICAN DEPENDENCY ON FOREIGN TECHNOLOGY. BUENO NOTED THAT THE BUDGET FOR RESEARCH IN MEXICO INCREASED FROM LESS THAN 50 MILLION DOLLARS IN 1969 TO A THIRD OF A BILLION DOLLARS IN 1976. IN 1969 THERE WERE ONLY 3300 RESEARCHERS IN MEXICO OF WHICH ONLY 635 HAD ADVANCED DEGREES (MOSTLY MASTERS). TODAY, AS A RESULT OF INCREASED EMPHASIS ON GRADUATE TRAINING IN S AND T AND THE LARGE NUMBER OF FELLOWSHIPS GRANTED BY CONACYT, THE NUMBER OF MASTERS AND DOCTORS IN SCIENCE AND SCIENCE RELATED FIELDS HAS INCREASED BY A FACTOR OF 15.

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3. THE PRINCIPAL S AND T REPORTS TO THE PRESIDENT

WILL BE FORWARDED TO THE DEPT IN A SERIES OF AIRGRAMS.

4. THE PRESIDENT SAT THROUGH THE ENTIRE 8 HOURS OF TALKS WITHOUT EVER LEAVING HIS SEAT. THERE WERE NO BREAKS, NOT EVEN FOR LUNCH, ALTHOUGH SNACKS WERE DISTRIBUTED TO THE PARTICIPANTS AND THE AUDITORS FROM TIME TO TIME. (THE PRESIDENT SPENT ALMOST THE ENTIRE PREVIOUS DAY VISITING THE SCREWORM STERLIZATION PLANT IN CHIAPAS AND BEING BRIEFED ON THE SCREWORM COMMISSION PROGRAM ON THE OCCASION OF THE PLANT'S INAUGURATION BY HIMSELF AND SECRETARY BUTZ).

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Event:
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